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World War II Casualties

World War II

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9-10-1945

**Loren William Bell**

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## Loren William Bell

Loren William Bell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bell, was born at Loup City, Nebraska, April 11, 1919. He grew to manhood in that vicinity and graduated from the Loup City high school in 1936. He completed a post graduate course at Loup City in 1937, then entered Kearney State Teachers College for a two year term. The two years following, he attended the University of Nebraska. He enlisted in the army on August 3, 1940, entering a pilot's training school at Oxnard, California.

In February 1941, he began a course in bombarding at Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado. Upon completing this course in April, 1941, Captain Bell was the youngest bombardier in the United States, he being just twenty-two years old.

He was commissioned at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho on Sept. 15, 1941. On October 20, 1941 he was married to Miss Dora Baisinger of Elwood, Nebraska, at the First Christian Church in Kearney, Nebr. Capt. Bell was sent to Alaska as a Second Lieutenant on Jan. 1, 1942, but while there was advanced to First Lieutenant and later became a Captain. He returned from active duty on May 4, 1943 being stationed first at Tampa, Florida, then at Florence army air base in South Carolina. On November 17, 1943 he was sent to MacDill Field, Tampa, Florida, remaining there as unit bombardier on the training program.

Captain and Mrs. Bell and daughter made their home in St. Petersburg, Fla. Captain Bell died at 7:55 P. M. July 10, 1945, in a plane crash at Venice, Florida.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife, Dora, and a small daughter, Peggy Lee; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Bell; two brothers, Boyd and Lee of Litchfield, Nebraska; his grandmother, Mrs. Minnie Busse of Ravenna; his mother-in-law, Mrs. F. F. Baisinger of Elwood, Nebraska, three brothers-in-law, one sister-in-law and several aunts and uncles, besides a host of friends.

While at Tampa, Fla., Captain Bell became a member of the First Presbyterian church. His Christian faith and high moral character will alway be a shining example to others. Captain Bell was loved and respected for his unselfish loyalty to the welfare of others. He was a wise counselor and loyal friend. His deep appreciation for every act of kindness shown him and his great love of life and friends endeared him to all who knew him. No martial music is sweeter to a soldier nor more hallowed with memories taps. The words have a noble grace: Fades the light and afar cometh night and a star leadeth all to their rest.